Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, On January 28, 1986, the United States Space Shuttle Challenger exploded and killed the seven astronauts aboard; and,

WHEREAS, The Challenger Disaster has placed a heavy burden of loss on all South Dakotans and all people throughout the World; and,

WHEREAS, The USSR has honored the women on the Challenger by naming certain depressions on Venus for the two women astronauts, Judy Resnick and Christa McAuliffe; and,

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the Governor of the state of South Dakota show homage to the brave space voyagers who lost their lives in the Challenger explosion; Commander Scobee, Judy Resnick, Ronald McNair, Gregory Jarvis, Ellison Onizuka, Christa McAuliffe and Michael Smith:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE S. MICKELSON, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby decree that

FROM THIS DAY FORWARD, WHEN THE BIG DIPPER IS VISIBLE OVER THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA, IT'S SEVEN STARS SHALL HONOR THE SEVEN ASTRONAUTS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN SPACE.

AND, FURTHERMORE, every time we look to the stars, the people of South Dakota should be reminded of the valiant individuals who gave their lives in an effort to make life better for us all.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Governor's Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty Fourth Day of April, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Seven

GEORGE S. MICKELSON, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

JOYCE HAZELTINE, SECRETARY OF STATE